

could cause governments in west Africa to deport many thousands of Liberians in their own countries. This would severely burden Liberia and threaten the fragile peace that has been recently achieved in west Africa. Furthermore, this action preserves the status quo for these Liberians while the Congress actively considers legislative relief for them.

**Memorandum on Measures
Regarding Certain Liberians
in the United States**

September 27, 1999

Memorandum for the Attorney General

*Subject: Measures Regarding Certain
Liberians in the United States*

Over the past 10 years, many Liberians have been forced to flee their country due to civil war and widespread violence. From 1991 through 1999, we have provided Liberians in the United States with Temporary Protected Status because of these difficulties. Although the civil war in Liberia ended in 1996 and conditions have improved such that a further extension of Temporary Protected Status is no longer warranted, the political and economic situation continues to be fragile. There are compelling foreign policy reasons not to deport these Liberians at this time, including the significant risk that such a decision would cause other countries in West Africa to repatriate involuntarily many thousands of Liberian refugees, leading to instability in Liberia and potentially threatening peace along the Liberian border.

Pursuant to my constitutional authority to conduct the foreign relations of the United States, I have determined that it is in the foreign policy interest of the United States to defer for 1 year the deportation of any Liberian national who is present in the United States as of September 29, 1999, except for the categories of individuals listed below.

Accordingly, I now direct you to take the necessary steps to implement for these Liberians:

1. deferral of enforced departure from the United States for 1 year from September 29, 1999; and

2. authorization for employment for 1 year from September 29, 1999.

This directive shall not apply to any Liberian national: (1) who is ineligible for Temporary Protected Status for the reasons provided in section 244(c)(2)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act; (2) whose removal you determine is in the interest of the United States; (3) whose presence or activities in the United States the Secretary of State has reasonable grounds to believe would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States; (4) who voluntarily returned or returns to Liberia or his or her country of last habitual residence outside the United States; (5) who was deported, excluded, or removed prior to the date of this memorandum; or (6) who is subject to extradition.

These measures shall be taken as of the date of this memorandum.

William J. Clinton

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting a Report on the
National Emergency With
Respect to Angola (UNITA)**

September 27, 1999

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) that was declared in Executive Order 12865 of September 26, 1993.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
September 27, 1999.

**Remarks at a Dinner for
Representative William J.
Jefferson in New Orleans**

September 27, 1999

The President. Thank you very much. First of all, like everyone else, I want to thank